

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) A sliding bearing comprising:

a bearing alloy layer having a sliding surface;

a bonding layer comprising a thermosetting resin and further comprising one or more of polyamide-imide, polyimide, epoxy resin and phenol resin, and provided on the sliding surface of the bearing alloy layer; and

a resin surface layer provided on the bonding layer and containing 20 to 95% by volume of polybenzimidazole as a base resin, and 5 to 80% by volume of a solid lubricant, the bonding layer being provided for improving a bonding strength between the bearing alloy layer and the resin surface layer.

Claim 3 (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented) A sliding bearing according to claim 2, wherein the resin surface layer further contains not more than 5% by volume of hard particles comprising one or more of a nitride, an oxide and a carbide,

and not more than 10% by volume of a soft metal comprising one or more of copper, silver, gold, aluminum, tin, zinc or alloys thereof.

5. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 2, wherein the bonding layer contains a solid lubricant.

Claim 6 (Cancelled).

7. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 4, wherein the bonding layer contains a solid lubricant.

Claim 8 (Cancelled).

9. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 2, wherein the bearing alloy layer comprises a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy.

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

11. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 4, wherein the bearing alloy layer comprises a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy.

12. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 5, wherein the bearing alloy layer comprises a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy.

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

14. (Original) A sliding bearing according to claim 7, wherein the bearing alloy layer comprises a copper alloy or an aluminum alloy.

Claim 15-17 (Cancelled).

18. (Previously Presented) The sliding bearing of claim 2 further comprising a backing metal plate to which said bearing alloy is bonded, said sliding bearing comprising a part of an internal combustion engine.